(*b*) was the journal published for the whole period for which subscription was paid;

(*c*) if not, was a refund obtained of the proportionate amount of subscription for the unexpired period;

(*d*) if not, why not;

(*e*) what is the proportionate amount of subscription for the total number of copies subscribed for, for the unexpired period?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):*

(*a*) Yes; in 1112—1113 for a period of nine months.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*), (*d*) & (*e*) Do not arise.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* What is the subscription for a year?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Rs. 4.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Is the amount of Rs. 4 paid or was payment made only for nine months?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Only a corresponding proportionate amount - Rs. 3 was paid.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Initially also was Rs. 3 alone paid? Or was Rs. 4 paid at first, and the balance got refunded?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* It is paid quarterly. It is not Rs. 4 in a lump.

SCHOOL FEE CONCESSIONS AS CYCLONE RELIEF MEASURE

214. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Will Government be pleased to state the conditions under which they propose to grant school fee concessions in this year on account of the recent cyclone and floods?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* The concessions will be granted in *deserving* cases to Cochinite pupils, when the heads of schools certify after enquiry into the condition of the guardians of the pupils that they are deserving of the concession, as follows.—

(1) Fees *at half the rate now levied* from boys and girls will alone be levied for the rest of the current educational year (1116—1117) commencing with the instalment in Karkadagam, 1116.

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(2) In exceptional cases, pupils who are in receipt of half-fee concession (those who hold half free scholarship will also be included in this category) will be allowed a further reduction. Fees at half the rate now paid by them will alone be levied.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Have the Government fixed the standard to decide who are the deserving poor?

Mr. K. Karunakaran Nayar *(Principal, Maharaja's College):* That I think is contained in the preamble to the reply.

"The concessions will be granted in *deserving* cases to Cochinite pupils, when the heads of schools certify after enquiry into the condition of the guardians of the pupils that they are deserving of the concession."

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Has the Department issued any orders giving general instructions as to what is the standard of wealth each parent should possess before they are entitled to get a concession?

Mr. K. Karunakaran Nayar *(Principal, Maharaja's College):* The Hon'ble members will please understand that I am here as a sort of stop gap for the day and that I cannot speak with inside knowledge of things. But a circular has been issued by the Director of Public Instruction. If the House would agree that I should read the circular, I shall read it.

"Government have been receiving petitions and representations from guardians of pupils pointing out their inability to pay the school fees of their children and requesting that some concessions may be granted to them in the matter of fees. While Government think that no general concession in the rate of fees seems necessary, they consider that individual cases may be very *sympathetically* considered and they have empowered the Director to allow suitable reduction of fees in *all deserving cases* for the current educational year.

2. The following reduction in fees will be made in *deserving cases.*—

(1) Fees *at half the rate now levied* from boys and girls will alone be levied for the rest of this educational year commencing with the instalment in Karkadagam 1116.

(2) In *exceptional cases* pupils who are in receipt of half-fee concession will be allowed a further reduction. Fees at half the rate now paid by them will alone be levied.

(3) No reduction will, however, be made in the examination fees or special fees payable.

(4) The Heads of schools are requested to bring to the notice of the pupils the substance of this order. They may then receive applications from the guardians of the pupils for the concession (which need not be stamped) and submit them *direct* to this office with their recommendations. The Heads of schools have to certify after enquiry into the conditions of the guardians of the pupils that they are deserving of the concession in fees. The Heads of schools are on the spot and

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the Director *trusts that they will impartially judge things while submitting their recommendations.*

(5) In the applications to be submitted by the guardians for the concessions, the following should be noted.

1. Name and address
2. Details of their financial condition and how the cyclone has affected it
3. The names of the children studying in the school with the details of the classes

(6) These pupils who have to pay in Karkadagam 1116, the rate of fees *now levied* due to non-receipt of this office order sanctioning the concession will be allowed remission of fees for the Chingam 1117 instalment. Until and unless the order allowing the concession in fees is received in schools, the pupils will have to continue paying fees at the usual rates. Every effort will be taken to see that the applications are disposed of *as expeditiously as possible.*"

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Do they propose to follow a uniform practice all over the State in this matter?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* They have proposed to follow a uniform practice all over the State.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi) :* Do not the Government think it necessary to give instructions fixing the standard of wealth of the parents?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The Director has been given a sort of discretionary power in this matter and Government hope that he would use his discretion and pay only in deserving cases, where the financial condition of the parents, as disclosed from the enquiries and reports of the head-masters, deserves it.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Are not head-masters given any discretion in the matter?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* They have to make full enquiries into the financial condition of the parents and beyond that they have nothing to do.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* They will simply furnish information on the wealth of the parents and the Director is to decide, and when exercising that discretion has he laid down anything for himself as to what the income of the man should be before he is entitled to the concession?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The discretionary power is given to him.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know, Sir, what is the significance of printing "deserving" in italics?

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Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Just to give some emphasis on that word.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know what are the arrangements made to extend this concession to the lower secondary and secondary schools which are self-supporting? The fees received from students are not debited to the Government.

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The question of self-supporting or not does not arise here.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* I want to know whether Government have made any arrangement to extend the fee concession to those schools which are self-supporting—I mean, aided schools?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* As orders now stand, I think these concessions are intended only to Sirkar schools.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Is the enquiry restricted only to the cyclone havoc or to the general condition?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Only in cases affected by cyclone.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Why is this concession limited to Sirkar schools?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* That is, I think, what is done now.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Is it not fair that it should be extended to students of the same category that are studying in private schools?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* That is a matter for further consideration.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* I may correct the Hon'ble Joint Secretary. The concession as per the present order will also apply to the aided schools. The fees received there are not debited to the Government.

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I am not aware of it.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Now, there are a certain number of schools which are self-supporting and the manager appropriates the money received as fees.

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* That itself is not accepted by the Government.

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Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Has the Government adverted to this question of extending this concession to aided schools also?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* That is a matter which has to be considered again. As things at present stand, these concessions are to be given only to Sirkar schools.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Do the Government consider that the concession should be extended; that it would be only proper if it is extended to aided schools also?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* No such report has been received from the Director, and if the Director makes a report that it should be extended to aided schools also, it will be considered.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: സക്കാർ സ്കൂളുകൾക്കുമാത്രം കൊടുത്താൽ മതിയെന്ന ഡയറക്ടർ റിപ്പോർട്ടുചെയ്തതാണോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. വി. റാഫേൽ: ഡയറക്ടരുടെ റിപ്പോർട്ടിനെ അടിസ്ഥാനപ്പെടുത്തിയാണു ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: സക്കാർ സ്കൂളുകൾക്കുമാത്രമെ കൊടുക്കുവാൻ പാടുള്ളുവെന്നു് ആ റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടോ; എയിഡഡു് സ്കൂളുകൾക്കു കൺസഷൻ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനെപ്പറ്റി എന്തെങ്കിലും പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. വി. റാഫേൽ: ഡയറക്ടർ റിപ്പോർട്ടു ചെയ്യുന്നതനുസരിച്ചു ചെയ്യുവരുന്നുണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: വില്ലേജുകളിലല്ലേ എയിഡഡു് സ്കൂളുകൾ അധികമുള്ളതു്?

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. വി. റാഫേൽ: വില്ലേജുകളിലും ടൌണുകളിലും ഉണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: വില്ലേജുകളിലുള്ള സ്കൂളുകളിൽ കൂടുതൽ ഭാഗവും പള്ളിവക സ്കൂളുകളാണെന്നു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്നറിയാമോ?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will the Government be pleased to direct the Director to extend this concession to aided schools?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* If he brings it to the notice of the Government, Government will have no objection.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Government can take notice of this matter and ask the Director to do it. Is it absolutely necessary that the Director should take it to your notice?

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: ഈ സഭ ഇപ്പോൾ സക്കാർ സ്കൂളുകൾക്കു ചെയ്തുവരുന്നതു പോലെയുള്ള കൺസഷൻസു് എയിഡഡു് സ്കൂളുകൾക്കും കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു് അനുകൂലമായി അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു ചെയ്യുവാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ?

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Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I beg your pardon. I have just now been told that it has been extended to unaided and aided schools also.

***Supplementaries to questions Nos. 191 to 196**

Mr. President: There are few questions standing in the name of the Chief Engineer—191 to 196. Do you want to put supplementary questions on it?

No. 192

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May, I know, Sir, whether the contract is to make a definite supply of water?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The supply to the Harbour had to be increased on account of the increase in the population residing in the island. I had a discussion with the Harbour Engineer and the Administrative Officer and we came to the conclusion that it would be necessary to increase the quantity of water supplied to the Harbour from the original prescribed limit of 50,000 gallons per day. So, it was agreed to raise the figure to 75,000 gallons per day.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know, Sir, if this includes the water given to the Railway stations inside the Harbour?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I think so.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know what is the rate that you are getting from the Railway when the water was supplied direct?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* When we were supplying water to the Railway the charges were Rs. 2 per thousand gallons.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* And now?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* It is the Harbour department that supplies water.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the rate that they are giving us? What is the rate that the Harbour gives us for the supply of water to the Railway?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We do not make any distinction between water supplied to the Harbour and the water supplied to the Railway.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the rate that they give us?

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* These questions were answered on 6th August 1941.

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Rs. 1—4—0 per thousand gallons.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* That is 12 annas less than what we were getting from the Railway.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We supply water to the Port Authorities in the Willingdon Island and they give us the fixed rate of Rs. 1—4—0 per thousand gallons. We thought it not necessary to ask the Harbour to sell water to different institutions at different rates. The railway shifted their watering yards into the Willingdon Island and they take water from the Harbour.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What objection is there to supply water direct to the railway as we were doing before? Then we will get 12 annas more per thousand gallons.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We cannot distribute the water in the Willingdon Island for the Railways.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the difficulty in doing it?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We have not got distributing pipes in the Willingdon Island.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* To the ships?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* To the ships also they supply.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What were you getting when you were supplying to the ships?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* When we were supplying water to the ships through barges, we were getting Re. 1—4—0 per ton.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is it a contract between the Government and the Harbour that the water should be used for their own purposes or that they can sell it?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There is no contract. It is only a temporary arrangement between the Government and the Harbour. They wanted some water supply. We said that we can supply 50,000 gallons per day. This agreement is only for a short period.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* So, they can buy and sell and do whatever they like with the water.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* They can do whatever they are pleased with the water, provided they give us at the Rs. 1—4—0 per thousand gallons.

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Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will the Government be pleased to restrict the supply of water only for their purposes, not for the railway and ships?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We can't do. In fact, one of the primary needs of the water for the Harbour is to supply to the ships.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Our water need not be given to the Harbour and then allow the Harbour to sell our water. Why can't we sell direct to the ships? Is it for trade purposes that we are giving water to the Harbour?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The member is entirely on a wrong premise. With the development of the Harbour it was necessary to supply them with a certain quantity of water. We know we have not got an unlimited supply. We wanted to help them because it was in the interests of the State itself to supply good drinking water to the growing Harbour. So, we agreed to give them a small quantity of 50,000 gallons per day for the supply to steamers and for other administrative purposes in the Harbour and they agreed to put up all the distribution lines. We cannot use their distribution lines for the supply of water to steamers.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Then enhance the rate of water supplied to the Harbour generally or confine the supply to their requirements, not for the railway and the ships. Whatever they supply for the ships the Government should get a higher rate. It is not our bounden duty to give them water. Do give water to the ships and railway, but charge them at a higher rate.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* All these aspects have been considered while fixing the rate of Rs. 1—4—0 per thousand gallons.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Are the Government supplying a fixed quantity of water?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* About 50,000 gallons per day have been agreed upon. Now we are supplying them with 75,000 gallons including the supply to the railways.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know the number of gallons supplied to the railway by the Harbour?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* While at Ernakulam it used to be 10,000 to 12,000 gallons.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* In connection with another question Government had said that fewer vessels are coming

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to the Harbour just now. Why should such a great quantity be supplied?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There are some soldiers there and the population of the Willingdon Island has increased considerably.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Will the Government be pleased to state the loss the Government has been put to?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Government is not put to any loss. We were once supplying 10,000 or 12,000 gallons. We are now supplying 75,000 gallons. We are getting a larger revenue. So it cannot be said that the Government are losing.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Have the Government ever realised that when water is supplied to the railway through the harbour authorities or to the ships through the harbour authorities they were losing this extra money? Now, if the Government realise that, will they be prepared to consider that?

Mr. President: But the Chief Engineer said that you have to consider that for the distribution of water direct, capital outlay is necessary.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* If they don't allow their pipelines for distributing water, you need not give them water.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether the Government is bound to give more than 50,000 gallons of water per day to the harbour authorities according to the contract that has been entered.

Mr. President: There is no contract, but there is an understanding that they will be given a quantity of water not exceeding 50,000 gallons.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Is there anything on record to show that the Government have undertaken to give 50,000 gallons per day?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* They said they will be able to manage with about 50,000 gallons of water for harbour purposes. After making that agreement, there have been certain changes in the consumption of water in the Willingdon Island and so we thought, in the interest of all concerned, it is necessary to increase the supply in the Island by about 25,000 gallons more.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. നാണുമേനോൻ: കൊച്ചി ഗവൺമെണ്ടിൽനിന്ന ഹാർബറിനും കപ്പലുകൾക്കും വെള്ളം കൊടുത്തിരുന്ന കാലത്തു കൂടുതൽ ബാർജ്സ് മെൻറയിൻ (maintain) ചെയ്തിരുന്നില്ലേ?

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മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. അരവിന്ദാക്ഷമേനോൻ : ഉവ്വ്.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. നാണുമേനോൻ : അതിനു് ഒരു വലിയ സംഖ്യ ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു പിലവാക്കിയിരുന്നില്ലേ ?

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. അരവിന്ദാക്ഷമേനോൻ : ഉവ്വ്.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* On what basis was this rate fixed?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* On two points. One is the ability of the Harbour to pay for the water consumed and another point is the actual cost of pumping the water and the extra expenditure caused by the depreciation of machinery and so on.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഇസ്മായിൽഹാജി ഈസാസേട്ട് : മട്ടാഞ്ചേരിക്കു് എത്ര ഗാലൻ വെള്ള മാണു ഡെയിലി സപ്ലൈചെയ്യുന്നതെന്നു പറയാമോ ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* In Mattancheri we are supplying 2,50,000 gallons.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri):* How much are you supplying today?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* It is about 2,50,000 gallons. In fact, while we charge the harbour authorities at the rate of Re. 1—4—0, we charge Mattancheri and Ernakulam Municipalities only at the rate of 4 annas per 1,000 gallons.

No. 194

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Six and half months have now elapsed since his appointment and the scheme was accepted only very recently. May I know what he was doing for the last 6½ months and why he was appointed before the scheme was fixed?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* At the time of his appointment or after, there was no question that this scheme will be dropped, and during this period he was engaged in the preparation of estimates, collecting data and several other works connected with the scheme.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether there was any urgent necessity to appoint him before the scheme was passed by Government?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* It is necessary for the Government to prepare the scheme and in order to

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have preliminary investigations and the preparation of estimates the staff was considered necessary.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Was he appointed merely for the purpose of preparing the data necessary to see whether the scheme was feasible or not?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Not to examine the feasibility of the scheme, but for the preparation of estimates preparatory to the launching of the scheme.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether he was in the employ of the Chandrie & Co., Ernakulam?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Yes, he was.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Is he a Cochinite?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* He owns some land in Cochin.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether there were not persons proficient or efficient for the discharge of the duties in the department itself?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* He is also proficient to do the work allotted.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Are there not persons in the department who is capable of doing this duty that was entrusted to Mr. Narasimham of Chandrie & Co.?

Mr. President: There is one thing. He was in charge of a large electrical installation.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether any applications were called for in the matter of the appointment of this Narasimham to see whether any better candidate could be had and for a lower pay?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* No application was called for.

Mr. C. R Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know the urgency to appoint Narasimham?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* This question can be asked of any person appointed, either Narasimham or anybody else.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* The point is that no application was called for and a person under somebody has been appointed here. That is the complaint.

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Government thought that he was a suitable person. The appointment is, however, not permanent.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* What is the kind of work that he has been doing all the while?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* That is what I was saying. He was preparing estimates and he was conducting surveys of the transmission line alignment and things of the sort.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Have they been checked by the Chief Engineer?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Yes.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* For Chittur and Nemmara Electric installations, is his service necessary?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Chittur and Nemmara Electric installations are under the Mechanical Engineer. I do not like to put a man who is specially deputed for this purpose—Pallivasal scheme—for such maintenance works.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* For investigation business, our men will be better because they know the locality than a stranger.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Narasimham is not a stranger. He was here for the last 3 or 4 years. He was the Resident Engineer for the local Electric installation.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* How many years was he at Ernakulam?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* About 4 to 5 years.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Is it because the power is to be handed over to Chandrie & Co., that Narasimham was appointed? Probably he is a man interested in the Chandrie & Co., because the power is going to be given to them.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* It is news to me.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Was anybody appointed there in his place?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* His Assistant is now doing his duties.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ഗോവിന്ദമേനോൻ: അവിടെ വേണ്ടാത്ത ആളായതുകൊണ്ട് ഇവിടെ വെക്കുകയാണൊ ചെയ്തത്?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I cannot answer.

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Mr. President: You are not bound to answer. Only relevant questions need be answered. They are asking questions about what is happening in Chandrie & Co.

KONATH RIVER—FLOODS IN—DAMAGE TO CROPS

215. Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether there were complaints from people in Mulanthuruthy, Amballur and the neighbouring villages that the crops on either side of the Konath river were damaged on account of floods at the beginning of the monsoon in 1116;

(*b*) how many days after the crops were flooded, the Puthotta bund was opened and water let out;

(*c*) whether Government think it necessary to make better arrangements to protect the lands mentioned in question No. (*a*) from such floods in future;

(*d*) whether there were complaints from owners of lands near the bund that when the bund was put in 1116, nothing was done to protect those lands from being damaged by the pressure of water?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) There was an interval of about one week between the complete removal of the bund and the observation of high water. But this does not mean that no drainage away from the lake was effected. Water was being let out through the drainage channel provided for the purpose.

(*c*) The arrangement now made is very good and answering the purpose and no better arrangement is possible or necessary.

(*d*) There was a complaint from one Sankara Panicker that his bund was breached when the main bund was put up. On enquiry it was found that this was due to his own fault and neglect in not keeping his field bund at this locality in proper strength. Maintenance of his bund was his responsibility, and Government could not do anything towards it.

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